

(Washington, D.C.) - Earlier this evening, Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23), a member of the Transportation Appropriations Conference Committee, inserted language into a Transportation funding bill to prohibit tolling on Texas interstates.

"Using toll roads to double-tax Texans is just plain wrong," said Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez. "I am very pleased that the final Transportation conference agreement contains an anti-tolling provision for federal highways in Texas. The citizens of Texas have spoken and they do not want the federal highways they have already paid for to be converted into toll roads. I worked closely with Appropriations Chairman David Obey, Transportation Subcommittee Chairman John Olver, Democratic Leadership and Senator Hutchison to put progress over politics for the benefit of Texas."

"Converting existing interstate highways, paid for by taxpayers' hard earned dollars, into toll roads represents double taxation. Elected officials must do everything possible to address the need for highway improvements but tolling the interstate highway system is not the answer," said Congressman Charlie Gonzalez (TX-20). "By inserting language into this transportation bill, Rep. Rodriguez has taken just and appropriate steps to prevent this unfair practice. His unprecedented leadership on this issue has paid dividends for all Texans," he added.

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